



Citizens Clean Elections Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWLY APPOINTED COMMISSIONER TO ATTEND FIRST CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION MEETING

PHOENIX, Ariz. (March 1, 2005) – The Citizens Clean Elections Commission (Commission), a state agency that administers the Citizens Clean Elections Act, announced today that Gary Scaramazzo, the newly appointed member of the Commission, will attend his first meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 3 in the Commission conference room in downtown Phoenix. Scaramazzo was appointed to a five-year term with the Commission by Governor Janet Napolitano on February 1, 2005. He is replacing outgoing Commissioner David McKay.

"Commissioner Scaramazzo's demonstrated leadership will certainly contribute to the continued advancement of the Clean Elections Act in Arizona," said Autumn Southard, voter education manager of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission. "He will play an integral role in helping the Commission improve efficiency, accountability and clarity of the system."

Scaramazzo, an independent not registered with a recognized political party, lives in Page, Ariz. and has served as the Mayor of Page and on the Page City Council. Scaramazzo taught high school government for 10 years, and currently advises the Navajo Nation regarding matters of economic development. He is also a developer working on projects in Puerto Penasco (Rocky Point), Mexico and Lake Powell, Ariz. Scaramazzo holds a bachelor's and master's degree in history from Northern Arizona University.

"It is my belief that we have a responsibility to our government system to be an active participant, whether that means voting, running for office or serving on a board or commission," said Commissioner Gary Scaramazzo. "I appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Citizens Clean Elections Commission."

Scaramazzo will serve on the five-member Commission, which is responsible for enforcing and administering the financing system that provides full public funding to qualified candidates who agree to abide by Citizens Clean Elections Commission guidelines. Additionally, the Act requires nonparticipating and participating candidates to accept campaign contribution limits and adhere to reporting requirements.

"I believe the intent of Clean Elections is to strengthen the electoral process in Arizona," said Scaramazzo. "Clean Elections must be fair, impartial, balanced and nonpartisan so that the Arizona electorate continues to support this very important and worthwhile effort. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues toward this goal."

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Commissioner Gary Scaramazzo

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About the Citizens Clean Elections Commission

The Citizens Clean Elections Act, which was passed by voters in 1998, created a new campaign financing system that provides full public funding to qualified candidates who agree to abide by Citizens Clean Elections Commission guidelines. Candidates for statewide and legislative offices are eligible to participate in the public funding program.

To qualify for funding, participating candidates must adhere to strict spending and contribution limits and gather \$5 qualifying contributions from constituents who are registered voters. Participating candidates also agree to attend required debates.

For more information visit the Citizens Clean Elections Commission website: www.azcleanelections.gov

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